
20. (Amended) A method for adjusting skew of a printhead assembly with respect to an edge of a strip material disposed on a worksurface, said method comprising the steps of:

positioning said printhead assembly adjacent to a printhead support structure;

A³ securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure; and

adjusting a mechanism for adjusting skew of said printhead assembly with respect to an edge of strip material to ensure proper orientation of said printhead assembly with respect to said edge of said strip material disposed on said worksurface, with said mechanism for adjusting skew being disposed within said printhead assembly.

REMARKS

This request for reconsideration is made in response to an Office Action dated October 4, 2002, having a shortened period of response set to expire on March 4, 2003 with a two-month extension.

Claims 1-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wood et al. (6,392,681 B1).

Claim 1 of the present invention recites a printer having a printhead assembly for printing on a sheet material disposed on a worksurface, said printhead assembly including a plurality of printing elements, said printer comprising: a printhead support structure for supporting said printhead assembly; means for securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure; and means for adjusting angular orientation of said plurality of printing elements of said printhead assembly with respect to said worksurface. Thus, Claim 1 specifically recites a printer having a means for securing the printhead assembly to the printhead support structure and means for adjusting angular orientation of the printing elements with respect to the worksurface.

The Wood reference does not specifically show or disclose what Claim 1 of the present invention recites. More specifically, Wood does not disclose or

show means for adjusting angular orientation of the plurality of printing elements with respect to the worksurface, as recited in Claim 1 of the present invention. Although the Wood reference discloses a trunnion joint and a trunnion pin (column 28, lines 60-62), the Wood reference does not specifically show or disclose the means for adjusting angular orientation of the printing elements, as recited in the claims of the present invention. The present invention specifically discloses and teaches means for adjusting angular orientation 902 (paragraphs 167 - 171 and Figs. 19A-19F). The means for adjusting angular orientation, as disclosed and claimed in the present invention, allows adjustment for the most advantageous orientation of the printhead for each individual printhead, which is critical for achieving good contact between the printing elements and the printing sheet to result in best print density. Since the Wood reference does not disclose or show what Claim 1 of the present invention recites, rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and Claim 1 passed to issue.

Claims 2 - 8 depend from Claim 1 and recite additional limitations thereto. Therefore, for at least the reasons described above, Claims 2-8 are not anticipated by the Wood reference.

More specifically, Claim 2 additionally recites that the means for adjusting angular orientation is at least one means for engaging said pin with said at least one means for engaging allowing adjustment of the printhead assembly to properly position the printing elements with respect to the worksurface. Claim 6 depends from Claim 2 and further recites that the means for engaging is a set screw fitting into a threaded opening defined within the printhead assembly to engage the pin. Claim 7 depends from Claim 6 and still further recites that the set screws is adjusted to affect adjustment of the printhead assembly position. In contrast to recitation of claims 2, 6 and 7, the Wood reference does not disclose or show either means for engaging the pin, means for engaging the pin being a set screw, or adjusting set screw to affect adjustment of the printhead assembly position. Furthermore, claim 5 depends from claim 2 and recites that the pin includes a recess portion to be engaged by at least one means for engaging. The Wood reference does not disclose or show a recess on the pin. Therefore,

as stated above, rejection of claims 2-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claims 2-8 passed to issue.

Claim 9 is an independent claim and recites a printer having a printhead assembly for printing on a sheet material disposed on a worksurface, said printhead assembly including a plurality of printing elements, said printer comprising: a printhead support structure for removably supporting said printhead assembly; a pin for removably securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure, said pin fitting through said printhead assembly and engaging said printhead support structure; and at least one set screw engaging said pin for adjusting angular orientation of said printing elements of said printhead assembly with respect to said worksurface. Thus, independent claim 9 specifically recites at least one set screw engaging said pin for adjusting angular orientation of the printing elements of the printhead assembly with respect to the worksurface.

As discussed above, the Wood reference does not show or disclose a set screw that engages the pin to adjust angular orientation of the printing elements of the printhead assembly with respect to the worksurface. Therefore, rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claim 9 passed to issue.

Claim 10 depends from claim 9 and recites additional limitations thereto. Thus, for at least the reasons described above, claim 10 is not anticipated by the Wood reference. Therefore, rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claim 10 passed to issue.

Amended claim 11 recites a method for adjusting orientation of a removable printhead assembly within a printer, said method comprising the steps of: positioning said printhead assembly adjacent to a printhead support structure; securing said printhead assembly to said printhead supporting structure; and adjusting position of said printhead assembly within said printhead supporting structure for a plurality of printing elements of said printhead assembly to be properly oriented with respect to a worksurface by adjusting means for adjusting orientation of said printing elements with respect to said worksurface wherein said means for adjusting is disposed within said printhead assembly. Thus,

amended Claim 11 specifically recites a step of adjusting position of the printhead assembly by adjusting means for adjusting orientation of the printing elements with respect to the worksurface, with the means for adjusting being disposed within the printhead assembly.

The Wood reference does not disclose or show the method recited in amended claim 11 of the present invention. More specifically, as discussed above, the Wood reference does not disclose or show means for adjusting orientation disposed within the printhead assembly, as recited in claims of the present invention. Therefore, rejection of amended claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claim 11 passed to issue.

Claims 12 and 13 depend from amended claim 11 and recite additional limitations thereto. Therefore, for at least the reasons described above, claims 12 and 13 are not anticipated by the Wood reference. Additionally, claim 13 specifically includes a step of adjusting at least one set screw that engages a pin supporting the printhead assembly. The Wood reference does not disclose or show a set screw that engages the pin supporting the printhead assembly. Moreover, the Wood reference does not teach a step of adjusting such set screw that engages a pin supporting the printhead assembly. Therefore, rejection of claims 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claims 12 and 13 passed to issue.

Amended claim 14 recites a printer having a printhead assembly for printing on a sheet material disposed on a worksurface, said printer comprising: a printhead support structure for supporting said printhead assembly; means for securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure; and means for adjusting skew of said printhead assembly with respect to an edge of said sheet material, said means for adjusting skew being disposed within said printhead assembly. Thus, amended claim 14 specifically recites means for securing the printhead assembly to printhead support structure and means for adjusting skew of the printhead assembly with respect to an edge of the sheet material, disposed within the printhead assembly. The Wood reference does not disclose or show means for adjusting skew of the printhead assembly, as recited in claim 14 of the present invention. The Examiner points to Column 27, lines 1-

67 and Column 28, lines 1-3 for disclosure of the skew adjustment means. However, the skew correction discussed in Columns 27 and 28 of the Wood reference, does not disclose or show means for adjusting skew of the printhead assembly, as recited in claim 14 of the present invention. More specifically, the Wood reference specifically states that "the steering is corrected, that is the actuation of the actuators 58A and 58B is selectively adjusted as to maintain the predetermined skew" (Column 27, lines 30-33). The Wood reference does not disclose or show the means for adjusting skew of the printhead assembly, as recited in claim 14 of the present invention. Rather, Wood discloses use of actuators 58A and 58B. The present invention specifically discloses, shows and teaches a mechanism 940 for correcting skew of the printhead assembly (paragraphs 172 - 175, Figures 19A - 19F). Since the Wood reference does not show or disclose what claim 14 of the present invention recites, rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and amended claim 14 passed to issue.

Claims 15 and 16 depend from amended claim 14 and recite additional limitations thereto. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, claims 15 and 16 are not anticipated by the Wood reference. Additionally, claim 16 specifically recites at least one cam cooperating with a pin to adjust position of the printhead with respect to an edge of the sheet material. The Wood reference does not disclose or teach a cam that cooperates with a pin to adjust position of the printhead with respect to an edge of a sheet material. Although Examiner points out certain sections of the Wood reference, these sections do not specifically disclose or show what is recited in the claims of the present invention. Therefore, rejection of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claims 15 and 16 passed to issue.

Claim 17 recites a printer having a printhead assembly for printing on a sheet material disposed on a worksurface, said printer comprising: a printhead support structure for removably supporting said printhead assembly; a pin for securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure, said pin fitting through said printhead assembly and engaging said printhead support structure; and at least one cam cooperating with said pin to adjust position of said

printhead with respect to said edge of said strip material. Thus, claim 17 specifically recites a pin and at least one cam cooperating with the pin to adjust position of the printhead with respect to an edge of the strip material.

As discussed above, the Wood reference does not teach, disclose or show a cam cooperating with a pin to adjust position of the printhead with respect to the edge of the strip material. The portions of the Wood specifications pointed out by the Examiner do not disclose a cam cooperating with the pin to adjust position of the printhead. Therefore, rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claim 17 passed to issue.

Claims 18 and 19 depend from claim 17 and recite additional limitations thereto. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, claims 18 and 19 are not anticipated by the Wood reference. Additionally, claim 19 specifically recites at least one cam screw positioned in a cam screw opening to maintain the cam in place. This feature is also not shown or disclosed in the Wood reference. Therefore, rejection of claims 18 and 19 should be withdrawn and claims 18 and 19 passed to issue.

Amended claim 20 recites a method for adjusting skew of a printhead assembly with respect to an edge of a strip material disposed on a worksurface, said method comprising the steps of: positioning said printhead assembly adjacent to a printhead support structure; securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure; and adjusting a mechanism for adjusting skew of said printhead assembly with respect to an edge of strip material to ensure proper orientation of said printhead assembly with respect to said edge of said strip material disposed on said worksurface with said mechanism for adjusting skew being disposed within said printhead assembly. Thus, amended claim 20 specifically recites a step of adjusting a mechanism for adjusting skew of the printhead assembly with the mechanism for adjusting skew being disposed within said printhead assembly.

Unlike the recitation of amended claim 20, the Wood reference does not disclose or show a mechanism for adjusting skew of the printhead disposed within the printhead assembly to ensure proper orientation of the printhead assembly with respect to an edge of the strip material. Therefore, rejection of

amended claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and amended claim 20 passed to issue.

Claims 20 and 21 depend from amended claim 20 and recite additional limitations thereto. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, claims 21 and 22 are not anticipated by the Wood reference. Additionally, claims 21 and 22 recite a step of adjusting at least one cam to engage a pin for proper positioning of the printhead assembly. The Wood reference does not disclose or show a cam engaging a pin for proper positioning of the printhead assembly. Therefore, rejection of claims 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claims 21, 22 passed to issue.

Claim 23 specifically recites a printer having a printhead assembly for printing on a sheet material disposed on a worksurface, said printhead assembly including a plurality of printing elements, said printer comprising: a printhead support structure for supporting said printhead assembly; means for securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure; means for adjusting angular orientation of said printing elements of said printhead assembly with respect to said worksurface; and means for adjusting skew of said printhead assembly with respect to an edge of said sheet material. Thus, claim 23 recites means for adjusting angular orientation of the printing elements and means for adjusting skew of the printhead assembly.

As discussed above, the Wood reference shows neither means for adjusting angular orientation nor means for adjusting skew, as recited in claim 23 of the present invention. Thus, rejection of claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claim 23 passed to issue.

Claim 24 depends from claim 23 and recites additional limitations thereto. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above, claim 24 is not anticipated by the Wood reference. Additionally, claim 24 specifically recites that the means for adjusting angular orientation is at least one set screw engaging the pin and said means for adjusting skew is at least one cam cooperating with the pin. The Wood reference shows neither set screw nor cam engaging or cooperating with a pin, as recited in claim 24. Therefore, rejection of claim 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn and claim 24 passed to issue.

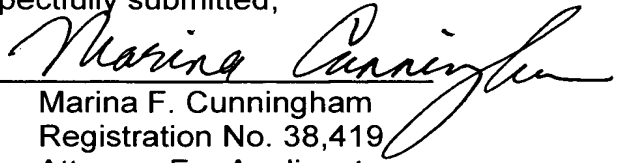
As applicants have addressed each and every objection and rejection raised by the Examiner, it is respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection and pass claims 1-24 to issue.

Applicants hereby petition for a two-(2) month extension of time and include a check in the amount of \$410.00 therefor. However, if additional fees are required, please charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-0235.

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APPENDIX OF CLAIMS MARKED UP TO SHOW CHANGES

11. (Amended) A method for adjusting orientation of a removable printhead assembly within a printer, said method comprising the steps of:

positioning said printhead assembly adjacent to a printhead support structure;

securing said printhead assembly to said printhead supporting structure;
and

adjusting position of said printhead assembly within said printhead supporting structure for a plurality of printing elements of said printhead assembly to be properly oriented with respect to a worksurface by adjusting means for adjusting orientation of said printing elements with respect to said worksurface, wherein said means for adjusting is disposed within said printhead assembly.

14. (Amended) A printer having a printhead assembly for printing on a sheet material disposed on a worksurface, said printer comprising:

a printhead support structure for supporting said printhead assembly;

means for securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure; and

means for adjusting skew of said printhead assembly with respect to an edge of said sheet material, said means for adjusting skew being disposed within said printhead assembly.

20. (Amended) A method for adjusting skew of a printhead assembly with respect to an edge of a strip material disposed on a worksurface, said method comprising the steps of:

positioning said printhead assembly adjacent to a printhead support structure;

securing said printhead assembly to said printhead support structure; and

adjusting a mechanism for adjusting skew of said printhead assembly with respect to an edge of strip material to ensure proper orientation of said printhead assembly with respect to said edge of said strip material disposed on said worksurface, with said mechanism for adjusting skew being disposed within said printhead assembly.